

AUGUST 21, 22 AND 23:

U.S. AIRCRAFT ATTACKED

HANOI

CENTRAL QUARTERS

VIETNAM

COURIER

August 28

1967

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RECEIVED

OCT 20 1967

13 U.S. PLANES DOWNED OVER THE CAPITAL CITY

Two Disastrous Days for
U.S. Air Force in North VN:

August 21 **8** Planes

August 23 **10** Planes

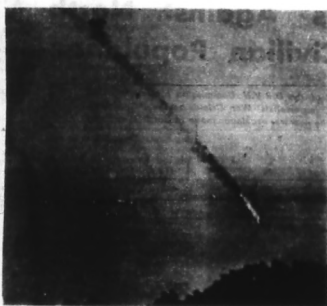
Downed. Many Pilots
Captured.

☆

Up to August 23,

2,215

U.S. Planes Brought Down



One of the U.S. planes downed over Hanoi
on August 21, 1967



Hanoi A.A. batteries in action — Aug. 23, 1967: 8 U.S. planes downed

In this issue:

☆ Sept. 2, 1945 — Sept. 2, 1967

**22 YEARS OF
SOVEREIGNTY
OF AN INDE-
PENDENT AND
FREE COUNTRY**

(Page 43)

☆ **THE 1945 AU-
GUST GENERAL
INSURRECTION
IN SAIGON**

(Page 4)

☆ **STABILITY OF
THE D.R.V.N.
PEOPLE'S STATE**

(Page 5)



Page 3:

**Saigon Puppet
Administration: A
Torn Screen for
the U.S. War of
Aggression**

ALL NEW U. S. ESCALATION IS DOOMED TO FAILURE ALL U. S. CRIMES WILL BE DILIGENTLY PUNISHED

(STATEMENT OF D.R.V.N. FOREIGN MINISTRY ON
AUG. 21, 22 AND 23 U.S. AIR RAIDS ON HANOI)

FOR three days on end—August 21, 22 and 23, 1967 U.S. aircraft came in many waves and attacked in a very savage manner a number of populous areas and economic establishments in the centre and on the outskirts of Hanoi city, capital of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. They bombed and strafed hospitals, factories and residential streets in the heart of the city, such as Hae street. The Gia Lam and Van Dien districts towns and many villages in Dong Anh, Gia Lam and Thanh Tri districts were also subject to U.S. air attacks. More than 100 civilians were killed or wounded, many houses destroyed, a temple in the city and the Hanoi Central Cathedral were damaged.

Thus, within less than two weeks, U.S. aircraft five times attacked Hanoi barbarously, piling up more and more crimes against the Vietnamese people. The U.S. imperialists are still rash enough to intensify the 1955 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and the elementary principles of international law, and even an extremely violent campaign to the

socialist countries and all the peace-loving countries in the world.

Over the recent past, in an attempt to get out of their founder in South Viet Nam, the U.S. imperialists have decided to increase their troop strength and use of toxic gas, set up their "pacification" raids and massacres of the population. At the same time, they are taking a more systematic series of war "escalation" by intensifying attacks on densely populated areas in Hanoi Capital and other cities in North Viet Nam, and sending aircraft to carry out provocations against and encroach upon the territory of the Chinese People's Republic. This proves that though suffering heavy defeats in both zones of Viet Nam, the U.S. imperialists are still rash enough to intensify and extend their war of aggression.

The bellicose and barbarous U.S. imperialists thought that by using bombs and bullets and exerting "more pressure" on the Vietnamese pop-

ple, they could realize their colonialist designs. But how stupid they are! Neither reckless "escalation" steps nor barbarous manoeuvres can save them from their unavoidable defeat in South Viet Nam. Every "escalation" step of theirs will certainly be smashed! Every crime of theirs will unquestionably be duly punished! The deeper the Vietnamese people's hatred for the U.S. aggressors, the firmer their determination to fight to the end for the independence and freedom of their Fatherland and for peace in South-East Asia and the world.

The only way out for the U.S. aggressors is to stop at once their war of aggression against Viet Nam, and definitively and unconditionally their bombing raids and all other acts of war against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, withdraw all the U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, and let the Vietnamese people settle themselves their internal affairs.

Hanoi, August 23, 1967

New Crimes Against North Viet Nam Civilian Population

(Statement of the D.R.V.N. Commission for Investigation of the U.S. Imperialist's War Crimes on the U.S. savage crimes in the new war escalation move in North Viet Nam)

IN an attempt to retrieve their defeat and get out of their present impasse in South Viet Nam, the U.S. imperialists have lately, on August 21, 1967, made most serious war escalation moves against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and committed new and extremely savage crimes against the Vietnamese people and particularly the population of the capital city of Hanoi.

On August 21 and 22, 1967, they bombed Long Bien bridge, dropped steel-pellet bombs, demolition bombs and fired missiles on sector 49, Phuc Thien street, Hoan Kiem district, Hanoi proper, on Gia Lam township and many populous villages in Hanoi suburbs.

In defiance of strong condemnation by world opinion and repeated and well-deserved punishments inflicted upon their "escalation" by the U.S. imperialists carried out several deliberate attacks from August 21 to August 23, 1967, against many areas of Hanoi's central part and its suburbs, particularly the populous areas in the central part of the city.

U.S. aircraft fired many missiles on the districts of Hoan Kiem, Ba Dinh and Hai Ba in Hanoi proper, seriously damaging a hospital, killing and wounding 5 medical workers. The Hanoi Cathedral was damaged, the Yen Canh temple completely destroyed, many civilian houses in Cua Bac, Nguyen Truong To streets etc., destroyed.

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(Continued page 7)

At noon August 21, U.S. planes coming in many waves from the north directed a surprise attack on Hanoi. Without doubt the pirates who had taken a serious beating ten days before got back to take advantage of the dusk hour for a surprise attack. But they failed miserably. The U.S. A-1A positions in the northern sector of the capital city, our batteries thundered all at the same time, sending up a dense fire which blocked the way to the intruders and shattered their formation.

Meeting with a head-on blow, the U.S. pirates broke into small groups and raced in different ways. One of them who had bailed out found himself landing amid a close ring of captors. Another died with one leg still in the plane wreckage, his body of the dusk hour scattered all around in the open fields. Another lay sprawling with both legs broken, head crushed and an arm severed.

The Hanoi armed forces and people had defeated the enemy not with guns and bullets but with their own hands. At Factory X, in the thick of the battle, you would see Pham Van's team.

U. S. AGGRESSORS AGAIN DULY PUNISHED FOR HANOI

Having guessed the enemy's intentions, a mine unit fired a shot that burst into an orange mushroom sky. A plane exploded and went down, a parachute glider and the pilot was quickly captured.

Their first attack having been broken, the U.S. pirates launched a second attack this time with more elaborate manoeuvres. Several groups of planes would converge at the same time on the same target. Some made diversionary manoeuvres while other fired rockets or dropped incendiary bombs. One plane would swoop down while another would make an oblique bombing run and yet another would race in very low. In short, all kinds of tactics were brought into play by the U.S. pilots. But "diversionary manoeuvres" after another four enemy planes crashed in flames, one of them before plummeting to the ground. Another was ripped into bits and pieces, exploded into smithereens over a wide area. Another trailed a bigger and bigger pall of smoke in a vain attempt to escape.

The pilots also met their death or were captured in different ways. One of them who had bailed out found himself landing amid a close ring of captors. Another died with one leg still in the plane wreckage, his body of the dusk hour scattered all around in the open fields. Another lay sprawling with both legs broken, head crushed and an arm severed.

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THE VIET NAM WAR: U.S. NEO-COLONIALISM AND THE NATIONAL - LIBERATION MOVEMENT

ON July 25, 1962, Cabot Lodge, who was to become U.S. ambassador to Saigon, unanimously stated before the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee that "the Americans would come to Viet Nam even if the South Vietnamese were to refuse to ask them to do so." (1)

Later, after the United States had committed direct aggression against Viet Nam, President Lyndon B. Johnson, speaking to U Thant, confirmed this view: "We shall act whenever necessary to ensure our defence." (2)

In essence, those declarations clearly show that, with the dispatch of expeditionary troops to South Viet Nam, Washington sought to establish its rule over South-East Asia and the world. Nevertheless, in the historical context of today's world, it cannot at the same time refrain from using such labels as "checking the expansion of communism in South-East Asia," "opposing the aggression of North Viet Nam against South Viet Nam" and so forth. On the other hand, while throwing hundreds of thousands of American and satellite troops into the fray of extermination—a small part of the century against the world people—the U.S. imperialist aggression has been striving hard to maintain and expand its "special war" in 1963 and 1964. It uses this puppet army and government to screen and a prop for the continuation of its U.S. aggression. Small wonder that the U.S. imperialists have been doing their utmost to "legalize" the Saigon administration by the forthcoming elections, 1955. As quoted *Christian Science Monitor* as saying: "Rarely in modern history has U.S. prestige, power and foreign policy reacted so much to an election abroad as they will when the Vietnamese vote on next September 21. American political circles regard the existence of a stable administration Saigon as vital for U.S. policy in Viet Nam."

Although Washington has "americanized" Viet Nam to a very high degree, it still sticks to the puppet army and administration. True, in his ninth trip recently made to Viet Nam, Lyndon B. Johnson put forth the boosting of the fighting capacity of the South Vietnamese forces to tide over U.S. difficulties. He urged the Thieu-Ky clique to strengthen their troop strength and to commit more men to the "pacification program."

Forced to give a shot in the arms of the Saigon valets and to put on the mantle of "independence" and "democracy," the White House intended to use this question raised daily by the American people: to whom the United States has been committed in South Viet Nam by three presidents? The answer lies in the deceiving American world opinion over the presence of the U.S. expeditionary force in this country.

Since the overthrow of Ngo Dinh Diem and the introduc-

tion of U.S. expeditionary troops into South Viet Nam, the puppet army and administration have been unsuccessfully grappling with an unending crisis. Internal contradictions plaguing the former keep on exacerbating. And futile have proved American efforts to raise the authority of the latter by, among other means, providing it with a certain amount of constitutional legality and enhancing its role at the Honolulu summit conferences. All that in order to divert the South Vietnamese people's struggle and rally all reactionary political forces and other subsistent factions against this struggle.

In the irrepressible trend of history, after the setbacks of the American military and political forces, the U.S. expeditionary forces will be certainly swept away from South Viet Nam under one condition or another. With army and government leading to the puppet administration, maintaining of the "pacification" program will lead to a miserable life in concentration camps dubbed "re-education" for the thousands of communists there.

Under the high-sounding "peace with honour" slogan by the allies' slogan, the U.S. entices its satellites into its aggressive war in South Viet Nam, thereby it hopes to hide its true colours as an international syndicate and to conceal its isolation in the world arena.

But the nature of U.S. neo-colonialism is transparent in its aggressive war against Viet Nam. As Lyndon B. Johnson, Dean Rusk and McNamara, participants in the Bay of Pigs 1961, stated: "The attack and carry" policy has been in force since the beginning of the war of aggression does not differ from the previous colonial wars. It is a very high degree, it still sticks to the puppet army and administration. True, in his ninth trip recently made to Viet Nam, Lyndon B. Johnson put forth the boosting of the fighting capacity of the South Vietnamese forces to tide over U.S. difficulties. He urged the Thieu-Ky clique to strengthen their troop strength and to commit more men to the "pacification program."

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SAIGON PUPPET ADMINISTRATION: A TORN SCREEN FOR THE U.S. WAR OF AGGRESSION

On the other hand, the presence of the U.S. expeditionary troops in South Viet Nam, together with the local economy and government, has created a situation for the existence and development of a section of the comprador bourgeoisie. That is the social basis of the Saigon regime now. Thieu Ky, a soldier who served in the French Expeditionary Corps, a minor supporter of Diem Ky's "personalism," as Ky for a former French mercenary, he has all the makings of a ruffian. He, therefore, surprised nobody when he said that he regarded Hitler as his model hero, and that South Viet Nam needed many Hitlers. In practice he acts as a fascist dictator. Neither he nor Thieu enjoys the backing of any political force and the U.S. policy of using agents in its bankruptcy precisely to its use of this clique for the satisfaction of its strategic requirement, that is, the intensification and expansion of the war. It is safe to say that the puppet administration is a miserable life in concentration camps dubbed "re-education" for the thousands of communists there.

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SEPTEMBER 2, 1945

SEPTEMBER 2, 1967

22 YEARS OF SOVEREIGNTY OF AN INDEPENDENT AND FREE COUNTRY

ONE more year is added to the protracted and hard fighting to defend and build up the country. The D.R.V.N. is 22 years old and from Ca Mau Cape to the Viet Nam-China border, gun reports of the fight against the U.S. aggressors, for national salvation resound victoriously.

The South Viet Nam people and Liberation Armed Forces have defeated the local war conducted by the U.S. expeditionary force and satellite troops with the help of the puppet army. The enemy is in a state of unprecedentedly bitter failure. In North Viet Nam, the U.S. air war of destruction is in an impasse. The democratic republican regime is steadily progressing along the socialist path. The people all over the country are standing shoulder to shoulder to carry through the solemn oath made in President Ho Chi Minh's letter to President Nguyen Huan Tho and the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for

Liberation: "Resolutely to liberate the South, defend the North, and eventually achieve reunification of the country."

This determination is the development in the past 22 years of the immortal sentence contained in the Declaration of Independence of September 2, 1945.

"The entire Vietnamese people are determined to mobilize all their physical and mental strength to sacrifice their lives and property in order to safeguard their independence and liberty."

Facts in the past 22 years have shown that the Vietnamese people have unwaveringly lived up to their oath of liberating the country.

With bamboo spikes and rudimentary weapons they rose up to defeat the aggression of the French colonialists propped up by the British and U.S. imperialists. Nine years of resistance war led to the great victory of Dien Bien Phu. Their great sacrifices and material losses have been resulted in the recognition by the 1954 Geneva Agreements of the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of our country.

At present, in face of the most brutal aggression in the history committed by the U.S. in face of the mightiest aggressive expeditionary army of imperialism, in face of a

huge amount of war materials poured into a small country—a fact never seen in the history of modern wars—the Vietnamese people firmly confident in their just cause, are resolved to fight back without the least fear. In this rather unequal fight, victory has already been in the hands of the Vietnamese people.

During 22 years since the founding of our republic and even 27 years since our people have been forced to put up armed struggle for self-liberation (in November 1940 when the uprising of the patriots in Nam Bo took place), the generations have succeeded generations to continue their lofty and time-honoured cause for independence and freedom.

What has created for our people this inexhaustible source of strength to constantly uphold this lofty banner. That is their ardent love for the people's democratic power set up all over our country since September 2, 1945 and their readiness to sacrifice all for it. That day our people were able to be master of their life and destiny after nearly one century of unremitting struggle. From the darkness of the medieval, feudal period and in the bloody, gignon, under the fascist colonialist regime, a

new state was founded. A genuine government of the people has come into being in extremely hard conditions and through a free election never known in our history. Under the slogan "combat ignorance, famine and foreign aggression", a happy life has been built, human dignity has found its value, the national independence and freedom have been achieved. All these constitute the source of our strength.

Since it was born just at the time when the revolutionary mainland was raging throughout Asia, the D.R.V.N. has found its position in this fire-burning land.

A first democratic country in Asia, Viet Nam has drawn from the enthusiasm and confidence of her people the necessary forces to defend their national independence and unity against the French reactionaries supported by the British and U.S. financiers and the Chinese reactionaries. While safeguarding the existence, Viet Nam is struggling not only for herself but also for the democratic forces in Asia.

Patriotism and genuine internationalism are also the source of our strength. Being a member of the socialist camp we neither fear to as-

sume the task of an outpost in South East Asia nor to bear the brunt of the war.

Today, socialism, the latest ideal of mankind, has been realized in North Viet Nam. All present generations have pledged to sacrifice all in order to defend to the end the democratic republican regime. The South Vietnamese

people have for over a quarter of a century been fighting with the resolve to defeat and sweep away from their country the U.S. aggressors, to save expeditionary troops and to smash the Saigon traitor regime, lackey of the U.S., so as to set up a national and democratic coalition administration which can in the present time represent

the aspirations of the overwhelming majority of our people living south of the 17th parallel, apart from when they have worked gradually to reunify the country—an earnest aspiration of a people which has in common a millenary history and has been artificially split under the French dominator. Part of this dream of the South Vietnamese people has materialized in the new power controlled by the N.F.L. where a people's self-managing administration has been set up which was anxious to oppose the U.S. military aggression and laying the foundations of a happy life in future. For this reason the U.S. aggressors have failed over two years of fierce attacks to nibble at the liberated areas. The latter have instead been expanded.

"Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom," this famous statement made by President Ho Chi Minh on July 17, 1960 constitutes not only the leitmotif of every Vietnamese people but also their confidence in victory.

September 2 this year comes at a time when the struggle against our country has reached many glorious victories. But in face of the new attempt of war escalation on the U.S. imperialists, especially the barbarous air raids on Hanoi in August, the Vietnamese people feel it all the more necessary to hold higher the banner of independence and freedom for the sake of their national liberation and for their obligation toward other nations and toward the world. They are determined to defeat completely the U.S. aggressive war.



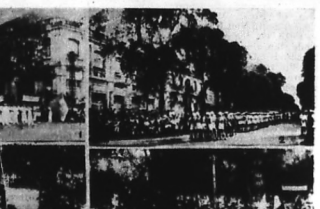
Bo Dinh Square, Sept. 2, 1945: President Ho Chi Minh proclaims the independence of Viet Nam

EVERYWHERE people talked about the Viet Minh. Its slogans were seen in all parts of the city. Meetings, trade union conferences and lectures which took place frequently at Nguyen Van Hao Theatre drew in many workers and other people of Saigon. "The house was brought down everytime the speaker put forward the slogan 'Down with the puppet administration. Power to the people!'" Those who could not secure a seat in the theatre stood listening

demonstrators-to be free of charge. People walked in step along boulevards far and wide.

By 4 a.m. Aug. 25, the puppet administration set up by the Japanese had been overthrown by the revolutionary masses. By 6 a.m. all public services had been taken over by the people. Saigon underwent a complete change. Gold-star red flags were flown on top of Thu Ngu flag-pole and over various offices. Revolutionary youth units and Vanguard Youth

units, on the occasion of the proclamation of independence



Saigon, Sept. 2, 1945: Demonstrators welcoming the proclamation of independence

THE 1945 AUGUST GENERAL REVOLUTION IN SAIGON

outside. The whole of Gallieni street gave its warm response and shouts of slogans echoed far and wide.

On the night of August 24 and early on August 25, 1945, huge gold-star red flags, together with messages calling for participation in the Aug. 25 demonstration, fluttered over Nguyen Van Hao Theatre and many other areas, causing a stir in the city.

It seemed that an invisible bond had linked up houses and people with one another in whole hamlets, whole city districts and whole boulevards and there was an unusual mood which spread from the suburban areas to the centre of the city, the Ben Thanh market, the railway station and the Ong Lanh Bridge area. Virtually nobody slept that night. Some were busy printing leaflets. Others went on with necessary preparations: flags, banners, bamboo spears, hand-grenades, knives and hand-knives. Leaflets and revolutionary papers were handed round. On highways, coaches and tram-cars flowed into Saigon from Hoc Mon and Lai Thieu, carrying

Brigades in a militant mood mounted a close guard on the streets. The French and Japanese troops were downcast. They no longer moved arrogantly in the open streets, but marched dispirited along the pavements, knowing that from then on this had returned to its real masters—the Vietnamese people.

Saigon was living one of its liveliest and most bubbling days. Those who had been slaves only yesterday took to the streets. They marched on the soil of their Fatherland, in the heart of their own city, alongside their own compatriots and revolutionary cadres. They called one another "comrade", a truthful manner, as if they had known one another ever so long.

The demonstration began. A lot of people modelled all main thoroughfares. There were theories of workers from different trade-unions including mechanics, hairdressers, shoe-makers and functionaries, groups of youth, women, old folks, students and pupils, children, militarymen, police-

men, and peasants. Some wore uniforms, others a great variety of clothes—European style suits, shorts, black pajamas, long tunics and turbans...

Most remarkable was the contingent of militiamen and home guards in very different dresses, carrying knives flint-

locks and even machineguns and marching 3 or 5 abreast with enthusiasm and energy. These very men and women have remained the loyal defenders of the "Brass Wall of the Fatherland" until this day.

Human waves converged on the Norodom Palace with

a forest of gold-star red flags placards and banners. Many shouted themselves hoarse, crying: "Down with Japanese fascism!" "Down with puppet Nguyen Van Sam!" and "The Viet Minh in power!"

They chanted slogans and sang. The song *On the March* was on the lips of the Saigon youth. All shops were closed. Flags were displayed at all windows. All families took part in the demonstration. Coaches moved at top speed from Saigon to Cholon, Ban Co, Phu Nhuan and Go Vap, each flying a gold-star red flag. Coachmen offered rides and worked round the clock. Tram-cars between Saigon and Cholon only started when full up and were requested. So many passengers clustered around the trams that there was not even room for a foot to stand on the footboards. Some demonstrators mounted on top of the tram-cars, waving flags and shouting slogans.

The demonstration wound up late in the afternoon brimming over with confidence in the to-morrow Viet Nam's full independence.

A FUNDAMENTAL GUARANTEE OF OUR VICTORY STABILITY OF THE D.R.V.N. PEOPLE'S STATE

THE August 1945 Revolution, waged under the leadership of the working class, with two fundamental tasks—anti-imperialism and anti-feudalism—gave birth to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam on September 2, 1945. It was "one of the forerunners of the general collapse of the imperialist system, one of the major events of our era." Within a matter of days, eighty years of national humiliation were erased, centuries of feudal domination abolished. The Vietnamese people recovered their independence, freedom and national unity.

THE STRUGGLE AGAINST HUNGER AND IGNORANCE

THE struggle against hunger was one of the most urgent tasks. A series of measures was taken: strict economy of rice, mutual help drives, intensification of production, provisional suspension of agricultural tax... which yielded good results.

THE DEFENCE OF THE PEASANTS' INTERESTS

GRAT attention was paid to the improvement of the peasants' living conditions. A law on labour guaranteed workers' most fundamental rights: 8-hour workday, one-month notice in case of dismissal, etc. In support of the peasants' struggle for a reduction of land rent and interest rates, a decree stipulated that as from November 1945 land rents should be reduced by 25% compared with those prior to August 1945; it also ordered a debt moratorium and the abolition of debts contracted before the Revolution. In the course of the war of resistance against French colonialist aggression, democratic reforms were carried out in the agrarian field. Land rents, agricultural taxes, and interest rates were substantially reduced, making it possible for the peasants to improve their living conditions, intensify production work, and start to prosper and live better. As a result of redistribution of land, provision of loans to peasants belonging to traitors and French colonialists, the pe-

ting at the peasants' disposal of lands belonging to owners who had taken refuge in enemy occupied zones and of fallow lands, etc., a million hectares of land were given to the peasants.

"LAND TO THE TILLERS"

THE people's power did not content itself with partial measures. Land reform, voted in 1953, was to be completed in 1957 in wholly liberated North Viet Nam. It handed definitively to 2 million peasant households 810,000 hectares of land, 2 million farm implements, 100,000 head of cattle and 150,000 houses. The peasants became masters of the land and the countryside. A free peasantry was born: it now had the necessary means to produce more for its own needs and contribute an invaluable part to the building of socialism.

However, tiny land holdings could not ensure to the small peasants a stable basis of subsistence. With a view to protecting them against natural calamities, unscrupulous loans from rich peasants, speculations and hoardings by merchants and mostly

against the differentiation which began to appear among the various strata of the peasantry, in other words to prevent the re-emergence of the State launched agricultural co-operation movement. Started in 1958, the drive toward co-operation was in late 1960 85.8% of the peasant households had joined the co-ops. Following a consolidation drive, by late 1960, 94% of households had joined the co-ops, 70% of which were of the higher-level type and included 55% of the total number of peasant households. A new peasantry had been born in North Viet Nam. A decisive turn has been accomplished in the life of the peasants.

DAILY RICE IS ENSURED

FORMERLY, to eat his fill is for a poor peasant an age-long dream. It could never become true. All he had was a few rags and a few scraps of rice from father to son. But by 1963, 90% of the poor peasants had a lower-middle peasants and lower-middle peasants and mostly

(Continued page 7)

ON the night of July 25 and early in the morning of July 26, the L.A.F. fired thousands of big gun shells on U.S. 1st Infantry Division Phu Loi base camp. G.P.X. latest reports said.

In the 6th attack on this base, the L.A.F. destroyed 46 planes of various types, 2 radar stations, 1 missile launching pad, killed or wounded over 200 G.I.'s and 3 U.S. majors.

If the 5 previous attacks on this base are included, the L.A.F. altogether destroyed 170 aircraft of various types and put out of action over 1,000 G.I.'s.

LAI KHE BASE

BEFORE dawn on August 5, 1967, the L.A.F. pounded U.S. 1st Infantry Division base at Lai Khe, destroying 18 helicopters, 3 L-19 planes and armoured troop carriers, and wiping out many G.I.'s and 1 U.S. major.

The total losses caused by the L.A.F. in the 5 assaults on this base amounted to 47 planes destroyed and 216 Yanks knocked out.

SOC TRANG MILITARY AIRFIELD

ON the night of July 31, the Soc Trang military airfield was stormed for the 14th time: 6

enemy planes were destroyed, several others damaged, many enemy troops killed or wounded.

The enemy losses in the 14 attacks on this airfield were 20 aircraft and 60 military vehicles destroyed or damaged, 900 troops including 250 G.I.'s wiped out.

They simultaneously completely burned down the "rallying" training center defended by 120 "rallying" cadres and 1 platoon of "civil guards."

Preliminary reports said that in this attack the L.A.F. completely overran the centre and 1 watchtower, heavily damaged the Tay Ninh military sub-sector, burned over 20,000 litres of petrol,

CA MAU AIRFIELD

ON the night of Aug. 9, the L.A.F. infiltrated into the heart of the provincial capital, attacked Lang Cat airfield, destroyed or damaged 4 reconnaissance planes inspite of enemy stringent security precautions.

TAY NINH TOWN

ON the night of August 13 the L.A.F. slammed mortar shells into Tay Ninh town, destroying many enemy billets. They set on fire a petrol dump, stormed the airfield and its watchtowers, causing heavy losses to the enemy.

They simultaneously completely burned down the "rallying" training center defended by 120 "rallying" cadres and 1 platoon of "civil guards."

Preliminary reports said that in this attack the L.A.F. completely overran the centre and 1 watchtower, heavily damaged the Tay Ninh military sub-sector, burned over 20,000 litres of petrol,

damaged 1 aircraft and armoured troop carrier.

OTHER L.A.F. VICTORIES

QUANG NAM

1 Puppet Battalion and 300 Yanks Wiped Out

ON August 1, 1967, an enemy raid on Duy Xuyen district, Quang Nam province, was fiercely intercepted by the L.A.F.

According to G.P.X. first reports, in the three days of fighting (ending August 3) the guerrillas and local

army knocked out of action almost completely 1 puppet battalion and 300 G.I.'s, destroyed or damaged 10 armoured vehicles and shot down 2 planes.

BA RIA

1 Australian Mercenary Company Battered Out, Another Badly Mauled

ON August 9 two companies of Australian mercenaries were intercepted while landing from a helicopter in Ba Ria provincial capital. The L.A.F. beat off all the enemy columns, entirely wiped out 1 company and badly mauled the other.

Reverse Side of Saigon Forthcoming "Elections"

FACED with the hard realities, President Johnson of late had to admit that there was some "blemish" in the election in Saigon. He, however, cautioned public opinion in the U.S. to pay attention to some of the similarities between the fight for democracy and freedom in Viet Nam today and the tough, unflinching struggle to build a new nation on this U.S. continent two centuries ago (UPI, August 17).

We shall not discuss Mr. Johnson's argument but tell the dirty truth which he has recognized.

In the period prior to August 3rd the election campaign in Saigon was a process of naked fascist dictatorship. The military junta eliminated any candidate who did not fall in with them, ordered mass arrests and imprisonment, cracked down on those intellectuals, writers, artists, businessmen and working people who opposed them, assassinated their opponents, closed down the newspapers, dared criticism of papers which threatened to stage a military push to kick down any other elected than Thieu and G.I. themselves and even ordered their army to sit up in order to bring pressure to bear on their opponents when necessary. Since August 3rd, the election campaign had seen even more brazen acts

of the military junta and still wider rifts among the U.S. puppets which led them to open denunciation of the election fraud.

Inaugurating the election campaign, the candidates to the "presidency" were also allowed to address the public through the Saigon radio and to call press conferences in order to present their "positions" in the race and also their "programs" which they swore to carry out once they were elected.

But one thing that made the White House bosses frown was that all the election speeches gave a gloomy picture of the present situation of the country (South Viet Nam). One of the joint tickets went so far as to declare: "The military situation is none-too-bright, security is lacking, production is dropping... An inept policy which combines the lack of independence with demagoguery has led to the devaluation of the piastre and the frightful spiralling of the cost of living as never seen before. The skyrocketing of prices in the face of the low purchasing power of the people has plunged the population in the abyss of misery... Confusion and unrest, a despicable and incapable administration... bribery and corruption, that is the picture of our South Viet Nam." Nevertheless with regard to

the most pressing and fundamental questions such as the aggressive war of the U.S., all that the "candidates" could do was to state in more or less veiled terms that they were the U.S. official line. They asked for continuation of the war, reorganization of the puppet army, more American troops to kill the South Vietnamese people. Concerning the role of the South Viet Nam N.F.L., the sole genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people in the fight against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, they only repeated Washington's theme that it does not constitute an unresolvable problem" in all negotiations. Fed by the Americans they talked the same way as their bosses. For this reason, the South Vietnamese people did not care a hoot for what they were saying.

The Western press has also noted that "the population do not feel any concern in the election", that "90 per cent of the South Viet Nam population are indifferent to the election campaign" (UPI), that "the rural areas are largely unaware of the coming vote" (Reuters July 23)... At an election rally in Thu Thua district, Tet An province, an inhabitant questioned the candidates: "Will there be electricity after the election? Will American planes continue to bomb American troops to shell American troops to raid our houses and plunder our property? Will our people be allowed to return to their ricefields and our gardens?" In Tra Vinh town, people

SOUTH VIETNAM GUERRILLAS

A THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD ANTI-U.S. VALIANT FIGHTER

HOANG, 13 years old, is one of the valiant fighters against the Yankees in Thua Thien province.

He was at first not allowed to join the guerrilla unit of his village. "When you are as high as your rifle and can fire at the Yankees, you will be drafted in the guerrilla unit," he was answered.

But Hoang insisted. He followed the guerrillas to learn their tactics. All day long he sharpened bamboo spikes or dug spiked pits. Alone, he was able to make eight of such traps. In February 1967, two G.I.'s raiding his locality fell into one of his pits. This success inspired other children in the village to emulate him in laying spiked traps.

As Hoang had given proof of his courage and resolve to fight the enemy, he was entrusted by the guerrillas with the task of collecting information about the activities of the G.I.'s now conducting the destruction and pillage in his village. His mission was a success. Success. He was then sent as a

scout in an attack on an enemy post.

He guided our fighters into position and followed them in their storming of the post. Taken unaware of the G.I.'s hidden fighter-skeeter. A number of them put up some resistance. Hoang saw five G.I.'s buried in a pit trying to escape; he hurled a hand grenade in their direction: all the five were killed. He was wounded in an arm but kept close to our fighters and kept a keen eye on the enemy.

By his achievements he qualified for the title of "Valiant Anti-U.S. Fighter."

"AFRAID" OF THE YANKES

WHEN a little girl, Sa, knew only to mind her little brothers and sisters and extract latex from rubber trees. Grown up in the flames of the battle, she joined the guerrilla unit but only did the cooking, grew vegetables or raised pigs and poultry. She had a rifle longer than her but had never fired a shot with it except in training. She longed for an occasion to make use of it against enemy troops.

One day, the Yankees raided her locality. All her unit went into the trench she was defending. The enemy did his best to make a thrust but was beaten off. Some G.I.'s managed to penetrate into a trench she was defending. She fired shot after shot. Her comrades felt worried, because the gun shots came from her direction. After the battle they discovered five enemy corpses in a heap. Perplexed, the group leader asked her,

(Continued page 6)

(Continued page 6)